

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Time

1:00 p.m. State Board Regular Meeting

Location

Rutledge Conference Center

1429 Senate Street

Columbia, South Carolina

E. Tim Moore, Jr., Esq., Chair

Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-elect

Jim Rex, PhD

State Superintendent of Education

Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Navy JROTC Color Guard, White Knoll High School, Lexington School District One, led by Captain Joseph S. Thornbury, USN (Ret.), presented the colors.

The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Tim Moore, Esq., Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; and Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit;

Absent with apologies was Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Jim Rex, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Karla Hawkins, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Valerie Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support; Sandy Smith, Deputy

Superintendent, Division of Policy and Legislation; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE minutes for February 9, 2010. Libby Swad moved to approve the minutes and Marilyn "Lyn" Norton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR APRIL 14, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for April 14, 2010. Rose Sheheen moved to approve the agenda and Libby Swad seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed all visitors including those from USC, Lexington School District Two, Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five, Sumter School District Two, Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary School, and Palmetto State Teachers Association (PSTA). There was no news media present and no one signed up for public comment.

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Superintendent Jim Rex to present recognitions and his report.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

State Superintendent of Education Rex recognized recipients of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education awards. These awards honor outstanding school programs and include a monetary gift to support arts education. South Carolina has had six national winners since the program began in 1999. Last fall, two of our public schools were national award winners for making arts an essential part of their students' education. They are as follows:

- Saluda River Academy for the Arts, Lexington School District Two, represented by State Board of Education member Amelia Herlong
- Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary, Dorchester School District Two, represented by State Board of Education member David Longshore

Dr. Rex also recognized the recipient of the Spanish Teacher of the Year Award. This honor is presented annually by the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society. Nominees are judged on innovation in teaching, initiative in Spanish curriculum development, extra-curricular activities related to teaching, and professional development. Elizabeth Sanderson, of Lakewood High School in Sumter School District Two, received the 2009 award along with \$1,000 and a plaque. She is represented by State Board of Education member Bonnie Disney.

Dr. Rex acknowledged the winner of the Deloitte Award. This award is a national honor for high schools using innovative approaches to develop a sustainable, college-going culture among students. Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School, Orangeburg District Five, received the 2009 award along with \$5,000 to increase the number of students participating in the College Summit program. Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School is represented by State Board of Education member David Longshore.

Also recognized by Dr. Rex was the recipient of the Mary McLeod Bethune Outstanding Teacher Award by the National Alliance of Black School Educators Award. This award honors dedication and commitment to student achievement. Dr. Lemuel Patterson, a science instructor in Richland School District One, was this year's winner. He is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

Dr. Rex also acknowledged the winner of the Leadership Award for Systems Improvement by NFS International, a non-profit organization that certifies products and writes standards for food, water, dietary supplements, and consumer goods. Greenville Food and Nutrition Services, Greenville County School District, was awarded this honor. The district is represented by State Board of Education member Phillip Bowers.

After Dr. Rex's award presentation, Chair Moore called for a five-minute recess.

The Board reconvened after the break, and Chair Moore announced that the winners of the upcoming Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards will be recognized at a later time. There are a total of 403 schools who won the award this year.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present for public comment.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

PH-01

Promulgation of Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-243 to meet compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) (Second Reading)—Marlene Metts, Director, Office of Exceptional Children

A motion was made by Amelia Herlong that the Board approve for second reading the Promulgation of Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-243 to meet compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA). Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There was no one present for public hearing comment.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Goal: Conduct a pilot for a value-added process to link (a) student achievement to individual teachers, (b) school effectiveness to principal performance, and (c) performance of graduates to their South Carolina educator preparation unit (including alternative programs) for the purposes of improving the effectiveness of these programs and increasing student achievement.

Committee Report—Amelia Herlong, Chair

Chair Herlong reported that the Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Mrs. Herlong provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval and two items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Adopt Passing Scores for New Praxis Examinations in World Language Areas (French, German, and Spanish), Business Education, and Reading**—Jim Turner, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong asked that the second reading be waived to Adopt Passing Scores for New Praxis Examinations in World Language Areas (French, German, and Spanish), Business Education, and

Reading. A motion was made by Mrs. Herlong that the Board waive second reading. The motion was seconded by Marilyn "Lyn" Norton. The motion carried. The Board then voted on the motion to adopt the passing scores for new Praxis examinations as adopted in committee. The motion carried.

- 02. Annual Waiver of Program of Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) Guidelines for Program Participants Who Are Impacted by School District RIF Policies**—Jim Turner, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

A motion was made by Mrs. Herlong and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Annual Waiver of Program of Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) Guidelines for Program Participants Who Are Impacted by School District RIF Policies. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 03. Annual Report on Individuals Who Have Applied for Certification in South Carolina Based on Qualifying for the Passport to Teaching Certificate through the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)**—Jim Turner, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

The State Board received a copy of the report submitted to the General Assembly on the status of the ABCTE program.

- 04. Presentation on the South Carolina Teacher Advancement Program (SCTAP)**—Dennis Dotterer, Executive Director, Teacher Advancement Program, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Dr. Allison Jacques, Director, Office of Preparation, Office of Educator Quality and Leadership, gave a presentation on the TAP system. She discussed performance-based compensation, evaluation systems, professional growth, and the various opportunities for teachers.

Mr. Dennis Dotterer gave a presentation on value-added student achievement, assessment data, and results. He said some of the data shows 92 percent of the TAP teachers across the state reported a positive effect on teacher morale, and 90 percent reported a positive effect on instructionally focused accountability. Mr. Dotterer added that teachers don't mind being evaluated as long as there is a system of support that allows them to grow based on the evaluations.

It was asked if perceptions have changed concerning data received from TAP teachers. Mr. Dotterer said the perception is different; by using test scores, there can be an initial shock factor regarding data.

Phillip Bowers asked how to ensure that all demographics are represented. Mr. Dotterer said demographics do not play into this; only statistical factors, not external factors, are used.

Mr. Bowers mentioned the I-95 corridor and asked whether previous data are the same as the past three years, and if these are the students who are linked. Mr. Bowers also inquired about going from National Board Certification to TAP.

Mr. Mark Bounds responded by stating that the SCDE may not be able to afford TAP, but we do need to move towards recruiting highly effective teachers by developing a new compensation system. He said we need to measure teacher effectiveness in South Carolina in order to move forward with rewarding good teachers. Mr. Bounds added that TAP has given us a good foundation to do so.

Dr. Gerrita Postlewait asked if Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant awards have provided funds for TAP. Mr. Dotterer said two-thirds of schools are funded by the teacher incentive fund grant. Two grants will run out in 2011 and 2012, and the staff is in process of writing two new grants.

Dr. Postlewait also asked how applications are coordinated under the I-3, TIF, and RTTT so it doesn't look as though we are asking for multiple funds for the same thing. Mr. Dotterer answered that I-3 is written so that a 20 percent match must come from a non-governmental entity. He said we are inviting institutes of higher education to merge with TIF. Mr. Bounds added that these grants, if received, will accelerate the expansion of value-added schools in our state.

Dr. Postlewait said the Board needs to think about what will happen when current grants expire. Mr. Bounds agreed that funds will need to be repurposed.

Other Business

Mrs. Herlong informed the Board that monthly reports on committee goals will be provided.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Goal: *SCDE staff to confer with leaders of eligible districts/schools to identify innovations that could improve student achievement and performance and recommend such waivers in accordance with pertinent statutes and regulations.*

Committee Report—Libby Swad gave the report for the Innovation and Finance Committee in the absence of Chair Britt Blackwell.

Mrs. Swad reported that the Innovation and Finance Committee met Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 1105. She provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Greenwood County School District Fifty-One**—Alex James, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Innovation and Support

A motion was made by Mrs. Swad and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Greenwood County School District Fifty-One. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 02. Request for Waiver of Specific State Board of Education Regulations for the 2010–11 School Year for Berkeley County Middle College**—Nancy W. Busbee, PhD, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

A motion was made by Mrs. Swad and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Request for Waiver of Specific State Board of Education Regulations for the 2010–11 School Year for Berkeley County Middle College. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 03. Early and Middle College Public School Choice Programs**—Julie Anna Hartwell, PhD, Education Associate, Office of Public School Choice and Innovation, Division of Innovation and Support

Mrs. Swad informed the Board that Dr. Julie Anna Hartwell gave a PowerPoint presentation in the committee meeting. Handouts were also provided.

Other Business

Mrs. Swad stated that the committee will continue receiving presentations from the Office of Public School Choice and Innovation regarding innovation programs in South Carolina.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Goal: *The SBE will devise effective means to broadly share information about the progress being made to transform the education system in the state.*

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 10:30 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Chair Moore provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there was one item for information as follows:

FOR INFORMATION

- 01. Update on the Progress Made to Amend Regulation 43-300, Accreditation Criteria**—Nancy W. Busbee, PhD, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

Chair Moore stated that Dr. Nancy Busbee made a presentation in the committee meeting and had given out binders with information pertaining to the Update on the Progress Made to Amend Regulation 43-300, Accreditation Criteria. Chair Moore urged the Board members to read this information before the next SBE meeting.

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Goals:

The SBE will ensure that the Common Core Standards maintain South Carolina's rigorous expectations for student learning and, if so, adopt a development and implementation plan for Common Core Standards, aligned curriculum resources, formative/summative assessments, and professional development.

The SBE will implement the Connect the Dots recognition for SC Department of Education staff members receiving national and state distinctions for their efforts to provide quality educational experiences for South Carolina students.

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Chair Clark reported that the Standards and Learning Committee met Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806. Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there was one item for approval and four items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Recommendations for Appointments to the 2010 Review Panels for Instructional Materials**—Kriss Stewart, Textbook Coordinator, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning

A motion was made by Ms. Clark and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Recommendations for Appointments to the 2010 Review Panels for Instructional Materials. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 02. Update on Report Card Ratings for 2008–09**—Gary West, Director and Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Management and Analysis, Division of Accountability

Ms. Clark reported that the committee received the Update on Report Card Ratings for 2008–09 and stated that more information concerning the report card ratings update would be covered in the Study Session.

- 03. Update on Assessment and the Biology End-of-Course Test**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability

Ms. Clark reported that the committee received the Update on Assessment and the Biology End-of-Course Test.

- 04. Update on Common Core Initiative**—Valerie E. Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported that the South Carolina standards were reviewed and compared to Common Core standards. Ms. Clark asked the Board to spend time reviewing the report, paying attention to alignment and rigor. She asked the Board to send her any questions and she'll forward them to the SCDE. Ms. Clark stated that this is a draft document, and there will be a

public review comment period from April 13 to May 3, 2010, and information will be posted on the SCDE Web site.

Phillip Bowers mentioned that we will have to act quickly concerning the dates for the Common Core timeline. Dr. Valerie Harrison said the timeline has been revised. The draft version will be presented to the SLA Committee next month, and her committee will come back with a final version of the report with recommendations for adoption of Common Core Standards for first reading at the May State Board meeting.

Dr. Harrison reminded the Board to please review the information as soon as they can. She added that the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) will receive the revised version in May as information only. The goal is to have the standards approved for second reading with an implementation plan in July 2010. The standards have to be adopted by August 2, 2010. Dr. Harrison said it is important we have this done because of the requirements of RTTT.

Mr. Bowers asked about the math alignment. Dr. Harrison said we found the formatting and organization of Common Core math standards very different from ours, so this explains why the initial alignment is not as strong. Dr. Harrison has a plan for how to address this and will give more information on this plan to address discrepancies at the May meeting. The Board has an option to add 15 percent additional standards to the Common Core Standards for items they deem necessary to ensure student growth.

Ms. Clark said the reasons we are giving a draft to the full Board are for review and to gather questions and input. She encouraged the Board to contact her or Ms. Clark with questions.

- 05. Update on Health Standards**—Christine Beyer, PhD, Consultant, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported that the committee received an update on health standards.

Other Business

The special education regulation amendments were taken up by the full Board.

Ms. Clark reported that Connect the Dot awards were given to Robin Rivers, Director of the Office of Standards and Support,

and to David Stout, Director of the Adult Education and GED offices.

Ms. Clark informed the Board that the SBE piece of legislation passed the House and Senate and should be on the Governor's desk within the next few days. She also said that the Board members may have their pictures taken when the legislation is signed by the Governor, if desired.

IX. LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REGARDING REGULATIONS, IF NECESSARY
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Shelly Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel

Ms. Kelly informed the Board that the SCDE received no requests from the legislature regarding regulations this month.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

STUDY SESSION

Assessment and Analysis of Data—Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Gary West, Director and Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Management and Analysis, Division of Accountability

Dr. Teri Siskind gave an overview of the study session. She said we need to discuss ESEA reauthorization, the assessment consortia, and the report cards to be released on Friday, April 16, 2010.

After Dr. Siskind's overview, Chair Moore called for a five-minute recess.

The Board reconvened after the break, and Dr. Siskind presented the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Dr. Nancy Busbee shared information and gave Board members a handout of the presentation. She discussed the President's Blueprint for Reform relating to the ESEA (formerly known as NCLB).

Dr. Siskind showed the PowerPoint concerning the goals of the assessment competition and stated it is very competitive. She said there are two competitive categories: the comprehensive assessment systems and the high school course assessment program. She covered only the comprehensive assessment system and said there are no plans to join a high school consortium at this time.

Dr. Siskind stated that if we want to include other assessments, we can propose and prioritize those. Proposals are due on June 23, 2010. She

added that there is a call for proposals for alternate assessments within a few weeks because all monies are to be disseminated by September 30, 2010.

Gary West, Director of Data Management and Analysis, gave a briefing on report card ratings. He also shared the differences in old and new ratings calculations for districts and schools. Mr. West added that the public release of report cards will be at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, April 16, 2010. The 2010–11 report card calculations will be reported around the first of November 2010.

Mr. Dennis Thompson asked if students would count in the district to which they transferred and how adjustments for this are done. Mr. West said if a student is transferred to a different district, they would not be counted in that district. If the student moves between districts, they are not counted in either district. If the student stays in the same district but transfers between schools, the student is counted.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 3:45 p.m.